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**Framing of News Coverage based on Korean and Japanese English
Online Newspapers and U.S. Online Newspaper**

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Title of figures

Figure 1. View of Dokdo from East Sea.....	12
Figure 2. Distance from Dokdo	12
Figure 3. Framing in Korean English online newspaper	24
Figure 4. Framing in Japanese English online newspaper.....	24
Figure 5. Neutrality in Korean English online newspaper	26
Figure 6. Neutrality in Japanese English online newspaper.....	27
Figure 7. Frequency of word Dokdo/Takeshima	28
Figure 8. Frequency of words dispute and court	29
Figure 9. The ratio of the interviewees in Korean English online newspaper	30
Figure 10. The ratio of the interviewees in Japanese English online newspaper	30
Figure 11. Headlines in Joongang Daily.....	32
Figure 12. Headlines in Mainichi	32
Figure 13. The ratio of the interviewees in the U.S. online newspaper.....	36
Figure 14. What country does the island belong?	37
Figure 15. Opinion on the South Korean president's visit to Dokdo.....	38

Title of tables

Table 1. Amount of the articles.....	23
Table 2. Frames and guidelines	23
Table 3. Tendencies and guidelines	25

Table of Contents

Abstract.....	4
Introduction.....	5
Literature Review.....	7
Research Questions.....	18
Research Methods.....	20
Data Summary and Analysis.....	22
Conclusion.....	40
References.....	43
Appendix 1.....	45
Appendix 2.....	46
Appendix 3.....	51

Abstract

After World War II, different maritime disputes have been appeared due to colonization and liberalization. It includes Kurile Islands, Senkaku Island, and Dokdo Island. Dokdo Island has been raised as one of the most important and sensitive diplomatic issues between South Korea and Japan. Both countries have published a lot of news articles about this issue. Since it is the diplomatic issue that is related with national interest, news agencies of both countries do not compromise with each other about this issue.

Both countries' news agencies, which give the articles in English, chose to frame the issue rather than to write the articles with completely subjective view. It means that they avoid some harmful issues for their national interest and concentrate on the issues which can help their national interest.

Keywords: Dokdo, Takeshima, Korea, Japan, framing

Introduction

Territorial disputes are diplomatic and/or military conflicts between countries over the territorial boundaries. This issue has risen up within the framework of colonization of some countries by the leading western countries in the history. After the World War II, the maritime disputes have also started to be discussed between different countries, due to rich fishing spots and the natural resources. The most recent ongoing maritime disputes can be found with the issue of Kuril Islands between Russia and Japan, Dokdo Island between South Korea and Japan and Diaoyudao Islands between China and Japan.

Although more than half of a century has passed from the end of World War II, the disputes on Islands of Dokdo (Takeshima in Japanese), Diaoyudao (Senkaku in Japanese) and Kuril (Northern territories in Japan) have not concluded, yet. There are different conflicts on these islands between Japan and South Korea, China, Russia. Each country has tried to persuade the world public that the islands belong to the own country.

Within Russian President Dmitry Medvedev's visiting Kuril Islands on November 1, 2010, sharp tension between Russia and Japan rose over the maritime issue. However, the definite and clear conclusion on this issue has not been worked out yet.

On August 10, 2012, South Korean President Lee Myung-bak also set foot on the disputed island Dokdo. He is the first Korean president who visited Dokdo Island. Within this event, tough tension between South Korea and Japan has been formed and the maritime issue between two countries has risen again, internationally. Before his visiting the island, there were always sensitive discussions on this issue between two

countries.

Both countries started to use various media as a tool of diplomacy to solve the problem on Dokdo Island actively. They promote campaigns by making UGC (user generated contents) about the island in the Internet, design different posters to distribute in different countries. Moreover, as many other countries, South Korea and Japan also have their own English newspapers. In this way, foreigners also can read and think about the current island issue about Dokdo.

Even though the importance of journalism is objectiveness, the issue of Dokdo cannot be written in objective view, as it is concerning about the national interest. When media come across the issues that concern about the national interest, they try to reflect their own country's voice in media. That is why Korean English newspaper concentrates on one issue while Japanese English newspaper avoids that issue and concentrates another.

The main purpose of this paper is to compare the contents of the news articles about Dokdo Island of both countries and the U.S. view on this issue by studying the news contents of three countries' online English newspapers.

Literature Review

Globalization of the world makes people closer and closer, but at the same time becoming more compact, the world society has become complex. In this way, people use and rely on the media to get the information which they can't experience and observe by themselves. Often, that information is about the other countries that people didn't visit or are located geographically in long distance. Through this kind of media, the international coverage, people imagine about the foreign country either positively or negatively.

Usually, public create the image of the foreign country personally through three different ways: (1) the direct visiting of the certain country; (2) using the product of the certain country; and (3) getting the information about the certain country from media (Jung, 2006).

Since this paper is concentrating on the making country image to solve Dokdo issue through the media, the previous researches used in this thesis mostly will be about the international relations, country image and media.

Theoretical Review

The international news media play a great role in making image of the country for the foreign audiences. According to Jung (2006), the international coverage should transcend the border of the own national interest. However, in reality, the current tendency of the international coverage can't avoid the national interest of its own country.

No matter what country of it, when the media face with the international audience, not the national, it is difficult not to take the national interest into

consideration. Moreover, when the coverage is about own country in the international conflict, it becomes more difficult to be strictly objective.

At the current time, there are some international territorial conflicts, and media from different countries report about the problems from various points of view, mostly taking the national interest into consideration, as the issue is not the matter of compromise and/or concession.

Then, how do journalists inform these kinds of sensitive issues in the newspapers following the journalistic rules and not harming the national interest of their country? As it was mentioned above, they concentrate on the certain issues and avoid the others in order to keep the objectivity in the article and to take into consideration the national interest. This is called as framing in media. Framing has been already used as a theory of media effects for a long time.

One of the benefits of a concept of framing that Entman mentions is connected with journalistic objectivity. Using theory of framing effect, the journalists can keep “the rules for objective reporting” and take away “a balanced assessment of a situation” from the audience by delivering “a dominant framing of the news text” (Entman, 1993, p. 56).

At the outset, it is imperative to clarify the definition of framing. Since framing theory has been used in different field of media and communication for a long time, it has many definitions by different scholars. One of popular definitions is by R. Entman. He stated in his study that “[t]o frame is to select some aspects of a perceived reality and make them more salient in a communicating text, in such a way as to promote a particular problem definition, casual interpretation, moral evaluation, and/or treatment recommendation” (Entman, 1993, p. 52) For him the most important things in framing are selection and salience. The word salience was defined by

Entman (1993) as “making a piece of information more noticeable, meaningful, or memorable to audiences” (p. 53).

Later on, framing theory was suggested as an extension of agenda setting theory by McCombs, Shaw, and Weaver (1997). They used to call framing theory as “second-level agenda setting” and used it in order to measure the media coverage’s salience on the way of audience’s interpretation of the articles. However, Scheufele, and Tewksbury (2007) differ framing from agenda setting and priming which are “accessibility-based models.” According to them, framing “is based on the assumption that how an issue is characterized in news reports can have an influence on how it is understood by audiences” (Scheufele & Tewksbury, 2007, p. 11)

In this way, agenda setting and priming theories emphasize their accessibility of the issues to audience while framing theory emphasizes its availability to lead the audience to interpretation of the news. The most visible difference between agenda setting and framing is based on the difference between “whether we think about an issue and how we think about it” (Scheufele & Tewksbury, 2007, p.14).

“News is a window of the world. Through its frame, American learn of themselves and others, of their institutions, leaders, and life style, and those of other nations and their peoples” (Tuchman, 1980).

Tuchman compares the media with a window. The audiences get the information, especially about the foreign country, from different media. Usually, they cannot see the whole picture of the issue when they use only one particular medium. Tuchman (1980) continues that “[t]he view through a window depends upon whether the window is large or small, has many panes or few, whether the glass is opaque or clear, whether the window faces a street or a backyard.”

Entman (1993) also stated that the frame makes the audience to be interested

on specific part of the reality, which means that they cannot pay attention on the other part. He found out that framing can occur by cooperation of the communicator, the text, the receiver, and the culture. The communicator can make a frame both consciously and unconsciously and produces the text which has specific words that can be interpreted differently by receivers who live in various cultures.

Goffman (1974), one of the first scholars who used the term framing, mentioned that there are two different kinds of framing. First one is natural and second one is social. The natural frame includes the delivering the information that occur physically, such as weather forecast. On the contrary, the social frame is the guided information which has motivation and intention in order to present the specific view. In this way, framing is the important thing in reconstructing the social reality and people's way of seeing the world.

Historical Background of Dokdo Island Issue

Although it has passed more than half of the century from World War II and Cold War, the remainders of the war still exist at the present time. One of the most broadly spread issues of the remainders of the war is the territorial and maritime dispute. After recognizing that the ocean is the infinite source of the natural resources, the maritime border also became very sensitive between countries.

Japan is involved in several maritime conflicts with neighboring countries, such as China, Russia, and South Korea. These problems have been already studied a lot under the issues of international law, economic interests, international relations and history.

After World War II, the Yalta System was made in 1945 among Roosevelt (U.S.), Stalin (USSR), and Churchill (U.K.) in order to solve the issues concerning

about the defeated nations, such as Germany, Italia, and Japan and liberated nations. During Yalta conference, Stalin was promised that Southern Sakhalin and Kurile Island would be returned to USSR. Furthermore, Hara (2001) mentioned that there was “U.S. – U.K. – Chinese Declaration” in Cairo in November 1943. According to her, this declaration “outlined the principle of “no territorial expansion,” specifying that Japan would be expelled from all the territories that it had taken “by violence and greed.”

Within the end of the Cold War, the Yalta System has collapsed and Japan came to the international relations “as a member of the Western bloc” by signing San Francisco Peace Treaty with forty-eight countries (Hara, 2001). In this way the Yalta System transferred to the San Francisco System. And this peace treaty is considered as the origins of the various regional conflicts. As Hara stated “the treaty did not specify to which country Japan renounced its former territories, nor did it define the precise limits of these territories.”

These conflicts include the maritime disputes of Northern Territories/Southern part of Kuriles between Japan and Russia, Dokdo/Takeshima between Korea and Japan, the Senkaku/Diaoyudao between Japan and China.

The island Dokdo is located at about 37.52 North latitude and 131.52 East longitude. It is situated between Korean Peninsula and Japan. The distance between Dokdo Island and Ulleungdo, the nearest Korean island, is about 87.4 kilometers, and the distance between Dokdo Island and Oki Islands, the nearest Japanese island, is about 157.5 kilometers.

Figure 1. View of Dokdo from East Sea



Figure 1 is the picture of view of Dokdo Island from East Sea (Sea of Japan). The picture is provided by Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Figure 2. Distance from Dokdo



Figure 2 is the picture that shows the distance from Dokdo Island to Ulleungdo Island, the Korean territory, and Oki Islands, the Japanese territory.

There are two main points at issues on Dokdo Island. First one is different historical view point of two countries. The Korean Institution of Dokdo stated that Dokdo and Ulleungdo formatted the small country Usan during the period of Shilla (former kingdom of Korea). In A.D. 512, the country came under the jurisdiction of Silla and it can be found that Dokdo has been annexed to Korea from Silla period till Joseon period in the history recording books such as The Chronicles of the Three

States, Sejong Sillok Jiriji (Geography section of the Annals of King Sejong's Reign), Sinjeung Dongguk Yeoji Seungnam (Revised and Augmented Survey of the Geography of Korea), Dongguk Munheon Biggo (Reference Compilation of Documents on Korea), Man-gi Yoram (Manual of State Affairs for the Monarch), Jeungbo Munheon Biggo (Revised and Enlarged Edition of the Reference Compilation of Documents of Korea), and etc. Moreover, before Japan started to claim that Dokdo belongs to its territory in 1905, the Japanese government publications as Map of Joseon, Map of East Sea of Joseon, Joseonguk Gyojesimalnaetamseo (Diplomatic document of Japan), and etc. The most important among them is the publication that was issued by the Dakojan, the highest decision-making body in Japan during the Meiji Period. In the document, it is mentioned that "It was confirmed through the negotiations between the old government [Edo shogunate] and the Joseon [Korean] government that the two islands [Dokdo and Ulleungdo] do not belong to our country [Japan]" (as cited in Dokdo, the Korean territory).

Heo(2008) mentioned that Supreme Command for Allied Powers Instruction Note (SCAPIN) No.677 defined the islands Ulleungdo, Dokdo, and Jeju as the territories to be excluded from the territory of Japan in January 29, 1946. She continues that Dokdo Island was prescribed as Korean territory in the draft of November 1949. However, from the Yoshida regime of Japan Dokdo was omitted by degrees, and reference about Dokdo Island was excluded in the final agreement note.

Thereupon, when Japan entered into San Francisco Peace Treaty with 48 countries including U.S.A., the U.S. refused third countries' request to include Dokdo as the territory which Japan should to relinquish. It became as the ground of Japan's claim, however, on the other hand, the allied nations, U.S.A., U.K., and USSR had

refused the Japan's request to spell out Dokdo Island as Japan's territory through the eighth article of the Potsdam declaration: "The terms of the Cairo Declaration shall be carried out and Japanese sovereignty shall be limited to the islands of Honshu, Hokkaido, Kyushu, Shikoku and such minor islands as we determine." The Potsdam declaration was signed up by the Soviet leader J. Stalin, British Prime Minister W. Churchill, and U.S. President H. Truman on July 26, 1945 right before the end of the World War II in Potsdam, Germany. The declaration summons Japan to surrender and manifest the further solution about Japan after World War II.

The second subject is the sea area. Lee (2006) reported that there are four important matters on Dokdo Island. First, it has the economical value as it is the rich repository of the sea resources where a cold current and warm current meet. Second, it has found that there is a big amount of natural gas and hydrate deposits and the possibility of existence of oil deposit. Third, it is the important place for military strategy. And the last, if South Korea gives up Dokdo Island, it loses 100,000 km² of maritime territory which belongs to South Korea. In this way, Dokdo Island is in the center of the conflict of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) between South Korea and Japan (as cited in Takazawa, 2011).

Although there was ongoing conflict on Dokdo issue, Japan arranged February 22 as Takehima Day in 2005, and the former president of South Korea, Lee Myungbak visited Dokdo Island officially on August 10, 2012. In this way the conflict upon the island Dokdo has raised again and again.

Korea and Japan usually described as close but far countries. Two countries are close both geographically and culturally, however, at the same time, have quite far sense of distance emotionally. Especially, when the conflict occurs between two countries because of the colonization reign of Japan in history, the images of Japanese

government and even of Japanese nation itself are typically formed negatively among Korean nation. One of the events that form the negative image of Japan among Koreans is the Dokdo conflict. The island conflict affected as the cause of different conflicts between two countries.

Relevant Research on Dokdo Island and Media

According to Jung (2006), the territorial dispute can't be compromised and conceded, the media set up the nation interest as the criterion of the reporting. This makes the media to report about Dokdo issue offensively by forming the negative and/or unfriendly image on Japan. As Jung researched, there are differences in reporting Dokdo issue depends on the media outlets. Some media outlets have more criticizing articles on "the inadequate management of the Korean government" and some have more criticizing articles on "the inappropriate correspondence of the Japanese government." However, generally, the media use the more negative words which describe Japan.

Evidence of using negative words about Japan in Korean newspapers is readable densely compacted in the study by Jung who has managed to observe and analyze the Korean newspapers during April in 2006. He researched that 9.4 percent of Korean news articles were supporting Korea/criticizing Japan, while only 2.8 percent were supporting Japan/criticizing Korea. Moreover, 16 percent of the articles were criticizing the inappropriate correspondence of Japan while 13 percent were criticizing the inappropriate correspondence of Korea. He also analyzed the headlines of the articles. The result was 24.5 percent of the news articles' headlines had negative inclination on Japan while 0.9 percent had negative inclination on Korea and 74.5 percent had neutral words.

The researches on the difference in reporting between South Korea and Japan have been studied variously in both countries. It is definite that there is the difference in reporting between each country. South Korea and Japan has some communication gap. Jo (2003), studied on communication gap through the media coverage. According to him, the Korean and Japanese citizens influence on each other's media. Generally, the closer the media communicators to each other, the more chance to have communication. In this way, the mutual understanding increases between countries. However, in the case of South Korea and Japan, because of the historical conflict influenced by victim and offender relation, the interchange range of two countries didn't increased, even though there were many chances to have the communication. On the contrary, there was the case when the misinterpretation had increased and the prejudice and stereotypes had fixed in media (Jo, 2003).

In the research of Jo, Yoo, and Kim (2007) on the newspaper coverage of South Korea and Japan mentions another opinion on communication gap. In the research they had compared the sports coverage on the issues based on South Korea versus Japan sports events. They have found that there is a tendency to cover the issue of match between South Korea and Japan by expanding and describing that as a victory on the national pride. However, in the case when the national team loses, they tend to downscale the meaning of lose and to report positively, so that the readers could maintain and keep their pride. In the coverage of the sports event between South Korea and Japan is usually influenced by the historical background of two countries, and that is why there is the difference in the attitude of reporting.

Then, how does the third country report this problem between Korea and Japan? Both countries have lobbied in terms of Dokdo Island to the international conferences and gave many efforts on this issue to be profitable for the each country

by PR and international report.

Kim (2010) analyzed three main newspaper outlets of U.S., The Washington Post, Wall Street Journal and The New York Times, during the decade concerning about Dokdo Island issue.

The Washington Post had more articles which recognize Dokdo as Korean island, however it tends to be neutral recently. According to Kim, it was hard to find the articles about Dokdo in Wall Street Journal. Only few articles were about Dokdo Island and it introduced the island as the area of the territorial dispute that follows the Japanese logic on this issue. Comparing with above mentioned news agencies, The New York Times had more articles about Dokdo Island. It tends to deal with Dokdo Island with different topics from various angles by keeping the neutrality of the content.

Research Questions

Within the introduction of the internet, people started to get the information through it. Many media outlets created their own online newspapers in the internet, and most of the new generations read the articles from the internet. The online newspaper in English is one of the easiest ways to get the information and create the image of the certain country. The news agencies try to inform and report about their country giving good image, especially when the coverage concerns the national interest. Moreover, online newspapers can provide the affluent environment for the common citizens to actively participate in the public issues and fulfill the appropriate role in the process of realization of democracy. Thus, both Korean and Japanese online English newspapers have different points of views in the coverage of Dokdo issue. This paper aims to find out the answers for the following questions.

Research question 1

What do Korean English newspaper and Japanese English newspaper provide the coverage about Dokdo Island?

This question is given to find out the way of providing both countries' coverage about Dokdo Island not harming the national interest and image of country.

Research question 2

How does United States' online newspaper provide the coverage about Dokdo Island?

This question is to find out how the third country is providing the issue of Dokdo in their coverage which can harm the diplomatic relation with the certain

country.

Research question 3

How do readers perceive the issue of Dokdo Island after reading Korean or Japanese coverage?

The answer on this question will let know if the coverage have influence on readers' thoughts about Dokdo issue and which country has more effective way of providing coverage.

Research Methods

For answering to the questions above, the paper is based on two research methods: content analysis and focus group.

On the first stage, the articles from Joongang Daily (Korean English online newspaper) and Mainichi (Japanese English online newspaper) will be gathered in the period from August 2012 to the end of October 2012, as from August, within Korean president Lee's visiting to Dokdo Island, the coverage about this issue had been increased.

Through the content analysis of the gathered articles, both countries' way of providing news coverage about Dokdo issue will be analyzed. However, the editorial articles and columns that are written based on subjective view are excluded in the research. The word Dokdo was used as a keyword to find the news articles about the issue in Joongang Daily, and the word Takeshima was used in Mainichi.

The news articles which were found by keywords were classified by whether they contained the directly relevant stories with Dokdo issue or not, and the news articles that were not applicable for this research were excluded.

On the second stage, the news coverage from The New York Times (U.S. online newspaper) will be gathered during the same period as for Korean and Japanese newspaper in order to find out the third country's point of view and objectiveness in covering the international issue. As it was mentioned before, according to Kim (2010)'s research, The New York Times has the most amount of coverage about Dokdo issue, thus this news agency was chosen for the research.

At last, the news articles will be provided for a month to English speaking people who are not Korean and Japanese. The readers will be interviewed in order to

find out how they perceived the issue of Dokdo through the coverage which they had read. For the first group Korean news coverage was provided and for the second – Japanese news coverage about Dokdo issue.

Within these methods the framing work of journalists in the news coverage will be found and its effect on the audiences.

Data Summary and Analysis

Dokdo Issue in Joongang Daily and Mainichi

Both South Korea and Japan have many news articles about the issue of Dokdo. They are trying to be objective since another sharp tension can be raised depending on the content of the articles and chosen words. However, as the territorial issue cannot be compromised for both countries, there are some subjective points and words can be found. For example, Korean news articles use many words, such as historical, right action, landmark, and etc. in the coverage of the president Lee's visiting Dokdo Island while Japanese news articles use the words, such as against, respond on the action, cancellation and etc.

Not including editorial articles and columns, the number of news articles was 28 in Joongang Daily and 42 in Mainichi. It makes 70 news articles in total. Overall, Joongang Daily has more editorial articles and columns comparing with Mainichi. It shows that Joongang Daily, the South Korean news agency, tends to be more subjective. The words which were used in the articles of Joongang Daily were more subjective, especially when it describes Japan or Japan's actions, movements.

More than half of the articles about Dokdo Island during the research period were written in August, 2012. Joongang Daily has 17 news articles in August, and Mainichi has 30 articles. The main reason of this phenomenon is the South Korean president Lee Myung-bak's visiting Dokdo Island on August 10. Dokdo issue was raised in the beginning of August within the announcement of Lee's visiting the island, and, in that way, the sharp tension between South Korea and Japan was raised both diplomatically and nationally.

Table 1. Amount of the articles

	Joongang Daily	Mainichi	Total (%)
August	17	30	47 (67)
September – October	11	12	23 (33)
Total	28	42	70 (100)

Table 1 shows the amount of the articles that were found during the research period. It excludes the editorial and feature stories.

The articles that were used for the research were classified by the frames: 1) diplomatic/political; 2) historical; 3) third party's stands; and 4) other. The articles were sorted through analyzing the content. The guideline for classification is shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Frames and guidelines

Frame	Guideline
Diplomatic/Political	The articles about Dokdo issue based on diplomatic relations between South Korea and Japan; the articles about Dokdo issue related to political decisions or speeches of the government
Historical	The articles about Dokdo issue that are related with historical background or issue
Third party's stands	The articles about Dokdo issue that are based on the third country's or/and party's stands on it
Other	The articles about Dokdo issue that are not included in diplomatic/political, historical, and third party's stands sections

Table 2 is the guidelines for the classification of the articles that were found during the research period.

As the result it was found that both Joongang Daily, the South Korean English online newspaper, and Mainichi, the Japanese English online newspaper, provide the articles with diplomatic/political frame the most.

Figure 3. Framing in Korean English online newspaper

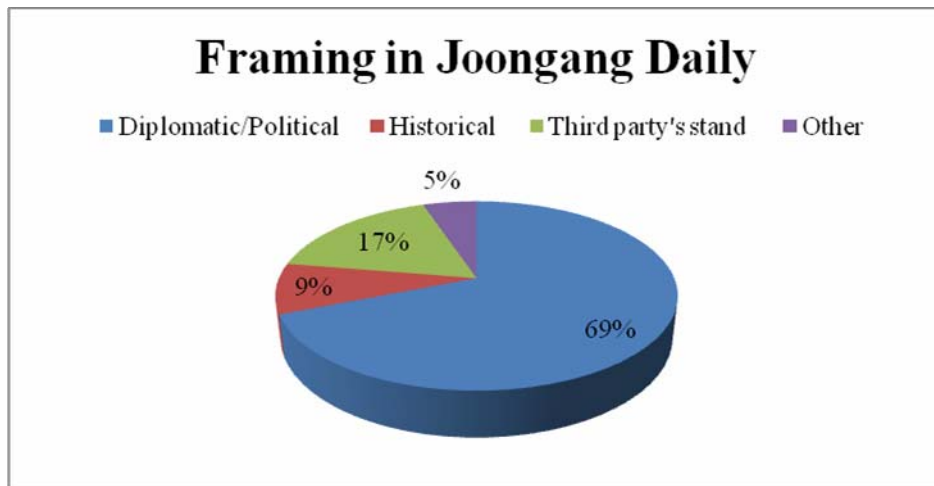


Figure 3 shows the rate of the articles in framing about Dokdo Island in Korean English online newspaper

Figure 4. Framing in Japanese English online newspaper

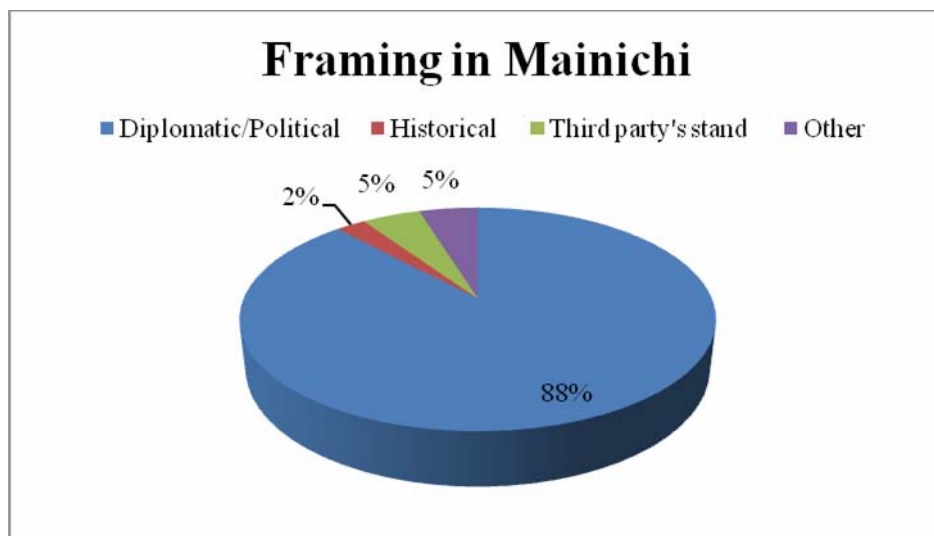


Figure 4 shows the rate of the articles in framing about Dokdo Island in Japanese

English online newspaper

As Dokdo issue bears different diplomatic conflicts, both countries' media concentrate on the diplomatic events, issues and the governmental decision on the island. On the other hand, as the general audiences of the English online newspapers are the foreigners, both Joongang Daily and Mainichi try to reduce the articles related with the historical issue on Dokdo Island.

The percentage of the amount of the articles based on the third party's stand on Dokdo issue in Joongang Daily makes 17 percent, while Mainich has five percent of those articles. It shows that South Korea is relying on the opinion of the third country, mostly U.S., and it can be explained within the weak national strength of South Korea comparing with Japan.

Analyzing 70 articles from Korean and Japanese online newspapers, it was found that the journalists write the articles either in neutral way or declined to their own country. In this way, the articles were classified into 1) neutral; 2) declined to Korea; 3) declined to Japan; and 4) criticizing the own government.

Table 3. Tendencies and guidelines

Tendency of the article	Guideline
Neutral	The articles which have both Korean and Japanese stands and not declined to one country by criticizing or blaming
Declined to Korea	The articles which talk only about Korea; The articles which have both Korean and Japanese stands, but declined to Korean side
Declined to Japan	The articles which talk only about Japan; The articles

	which have both Korean Japanese stands, but declined to Japanese side
Criticizing the own government	The articles which criticize and blame the own government actions and reactions upon Dokdo issue (Joongang Daily – criticizing the Korean government; Mainichi – criticizing the Japanese government)

Table 3 is the guideline for the classification by the tendency of the articles that were found during the research period

Figure 5. Neutrality in Korean English online newspaper

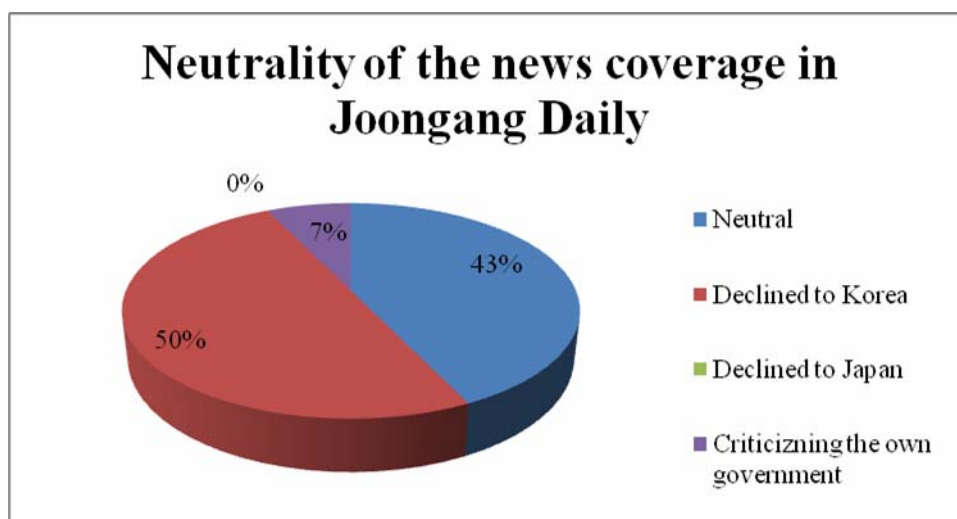


Figure 5 shows the rate of the tendency of the articles in Korean English online newspaper

Figure 6. Neutrality in Japanese English online newspaper

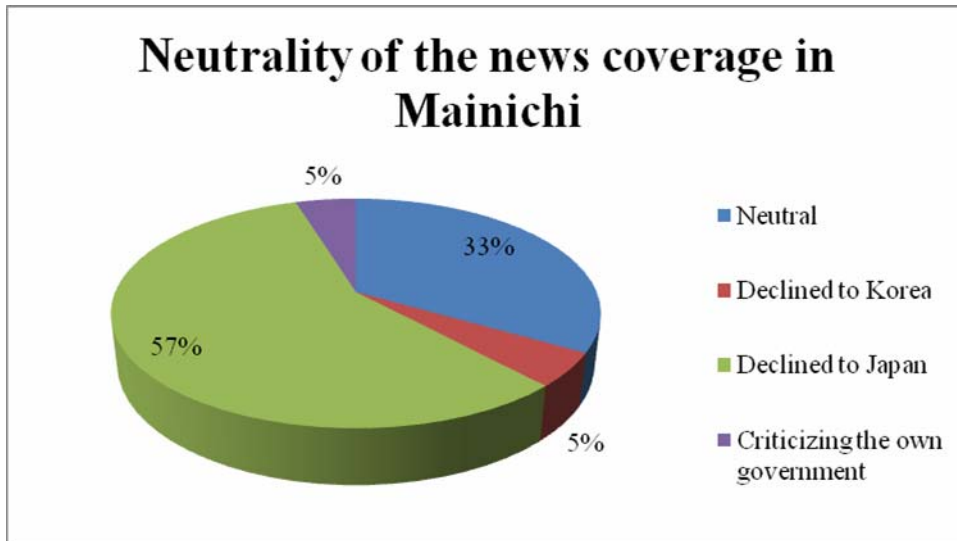


Figure 6 shows the rate of the tendency of the articles in Japanese English online newspaper

Even though Joongang Daily and Mainichi try to provide the articles with the neutrality and objectivity, they have the articles declined to their own country more. Usually, they are dealing with both countries' stand and points. However, by avoiding some points and concentrating on some specific issue, they tend to be declined to the own country or the government.

There are some points that make the coverage to be declined to specific party's stand. The first one is selecting words. Both South Korea and Japan prefer to write the name of island in their own language (Dokdo in Korean and Takeshima in Japanese). Especially, Korea tends to emphasize the name of island by using the word Dokdo 226 times out of 28 articles, while Mainichi was using the word Takeshima 84 times out of 42 articles. On the other hand, Joongang Daily used word Takeshima only 28 times, while Mainichi used word Dokdo 50 times.

Figure 7. Frequency of word Dokdo/Takeshima

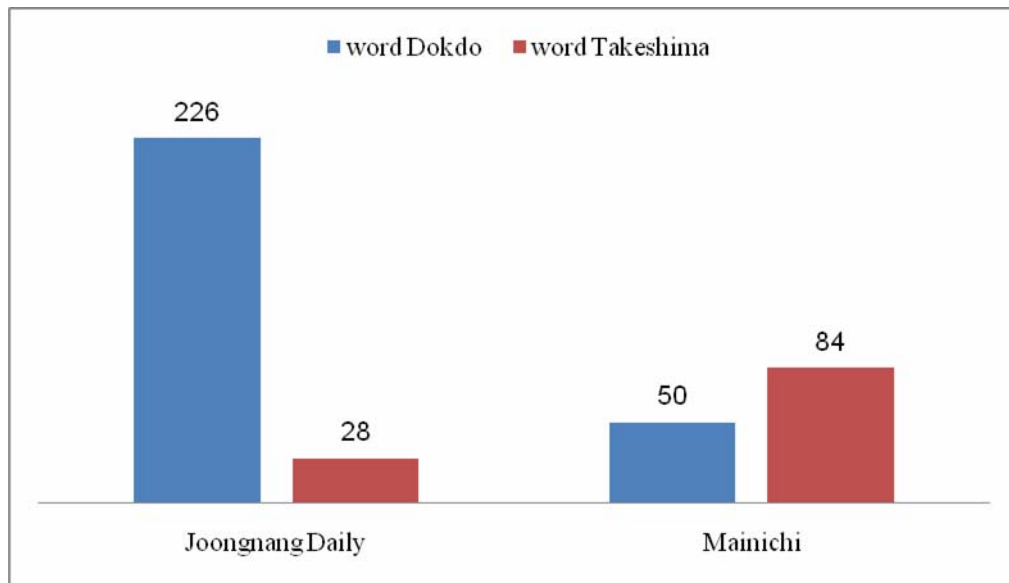


Figure 7 shows the frequency of the words Dokdo and Takeshima in Korean and Japanese English online newspapers.

As it was mentioned before, by the historical view point, Dokdo Island was taken by Japan during its colony period in 1905. After that, with the end of World War II, all Korean islands, including Dokdo, was returned to Korea, as the declaration in Yalta and Cairo agreed that all territories which were taken by force during the war time should be returned, and Japan should be expelled from those territories. Thus, in actual, Dokdo can't be called as a disputed island. South Korea tries to avoid the word 'dispute' and 'disputed,' while Japan uses those words more. Articles in Joonang Daily have only 42 words of 'dispute' or 'disputed' while Mainichi's articles have those words 135 times.

Within the tension on the issue of Dokdo Island, Japanese government proposed to refer the issue to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) several times. However, South Korean government rejected that proposal every time by claiming

that Dokdo Island is not the issue of the court, as it is not in dispute. This situation is well reflected in the news contents, too. The words ‘International Court of Justice’ or ‘ICJ’ appear 42 times in Joongang Daily, while they appear 86 times in Mainichi. Moreover, Mainichi emphasizing the fact that South Korea rejected to take the Dokdo issue to the international court.

Figure 8. Frequency of words dispute and court

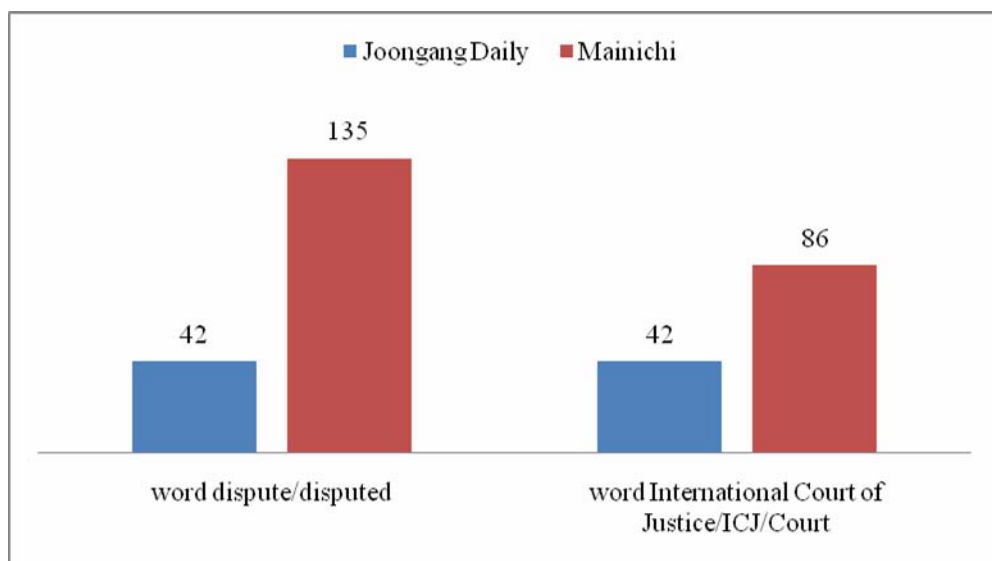


Figure 8 shows the frequency of the words dispute and court in Korean and Japanese English online newspapers.

The second is the selecting the specific interviewees and quotes that criticize the one country while praising another. For instance, both Joongang Daily and Mainichi rely on the governmental person’s messages and quotations most comparing with others. Especially, they prefer to use the quotations from their own country’s politicians. Besides, they had interviews the scholars and specialists who are the experts of the Dokdo issue, the third person, mostly the politicians of the U.S., and the citizens.

Figure 9. The ratio of the interviewees in Korean English online newspaper

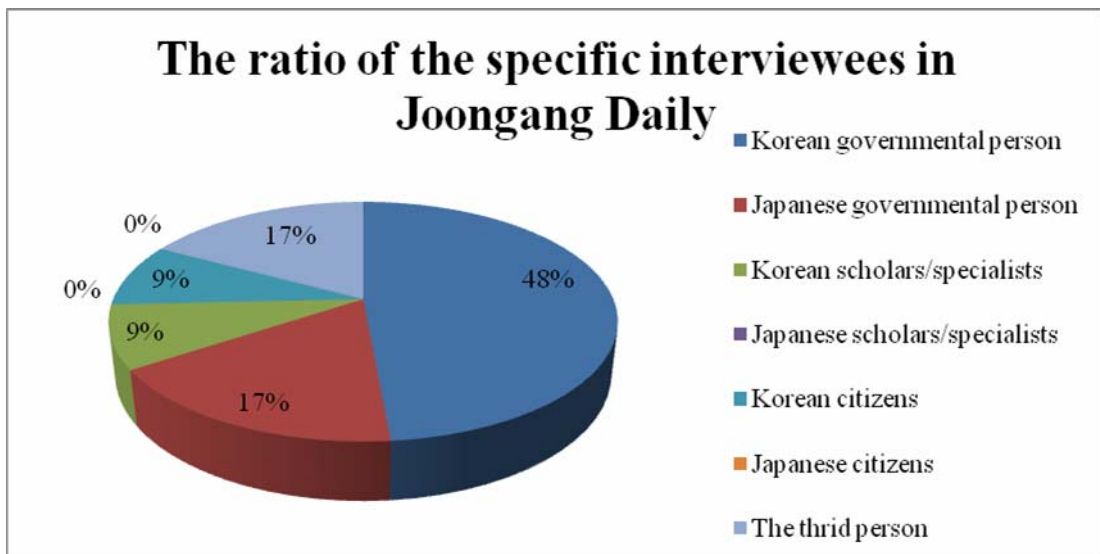


Figure 9 shows the ratio of the interviewees' occupations in the articles of the Korean English online newspaper

Figure 10. The ratio of the interviewees in Japanese English online newspaper

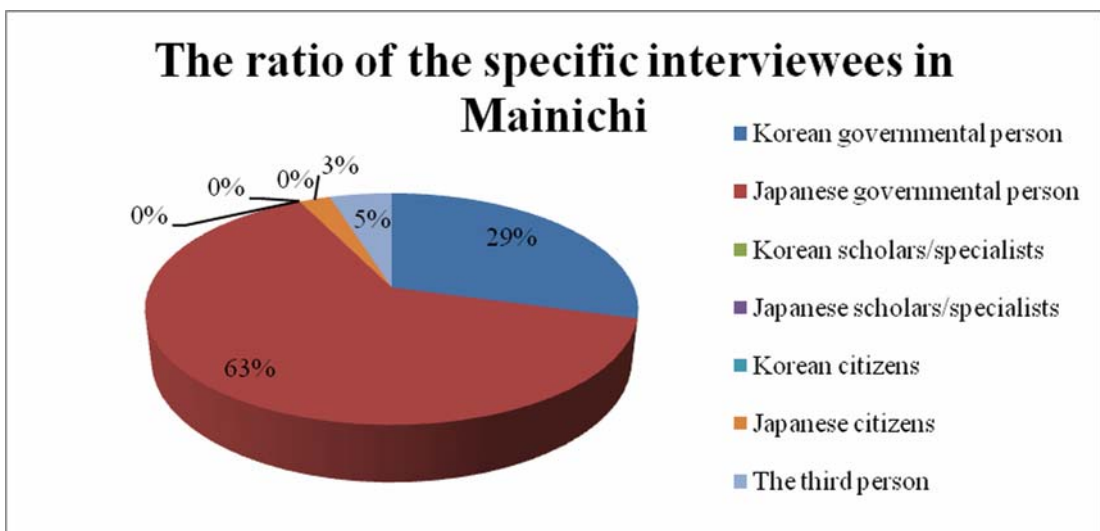


Figure 10 shows the ratio of the interviewees' occupations in the articles of the Japanese English online newspaper

This kind of framing work of two media can be easily found in the headlines of the articles. Concerning the South Korean President Lee Myung-bak's visiting

Dokdo Island, Joongang Daily was emphasizing on the president's visiting itself. However, Mainichi was emphasizing on the reaction of Japan on his action. Joongang Daily provided the news articles about the president Lee's visiting Dokdo with headlines, such as "President Lee to make landmark visit to Dokdo" (Ser, 2012, August 10), "Lee Myung-bak makes historic visit to Dokdo" (Ser, 2012, August 10), "Dokdo visit stunning, but right" (Joongang Daily, 2012, August 11), and etc. Oppositely, Mainichi provided headlines for covering the president Lee's visiting to Dokdo pretty negatively like "Japan calls for cancellation of S. Korea president's visit to Takeshima" (Mainichi, 2012, August 10), "Japan PM calls Lee's Takeshima visit "totally unacceptable" (Mainichi, 2012, August 11), "S. Korean president's visit to disputed islands spurs criticism in Japan" (Mainichi, 2012, August 11), and etc.

Furthermore, by collecting only the headlines of the news articles of both Korean and Japanese news outlets, it was not difficult to find their effort on framing the issue. For instance, Joongang Daily has fewer headlines about the ICJ court issue on Dokdo Island comparing with Mainichi. Joongang Daily has only two headlines that talk about ICJ court, while Mainichi has ten. Half of Mainichi's headlines about the ICJ issue talk about the South Korea's rejection the proposal:

S. Korea rejects Japan's proposal to take islets issue to world court

(August 17)

S. Korea rejects Japan proposal to take islets issue to ICJ (August 21)

S. Korea to formally reject Japanese ICJ proposal (August 27)

S. Korea to send rejection of Japan's ICJ proposal on Thurs. or Fri.

(August 29)

S. Korea formally rejects Japan proposal to refer isle dispute to ICJ

(August 30)

Figure 11. Headlines in Joongang Daily

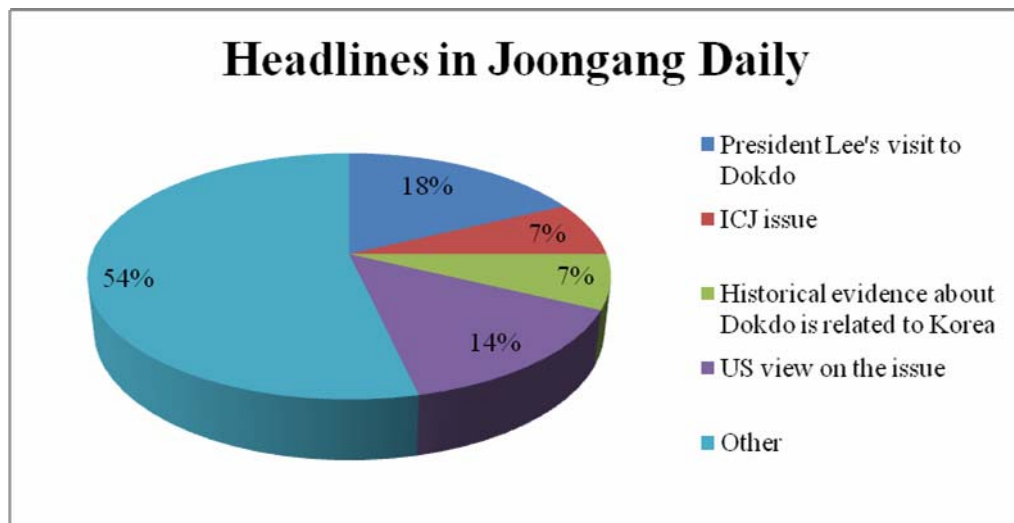


Figure 11 shows the ratio of the headlines' subjects in the Korean English online newspaper

Figure 12. Headlines in Mainichi

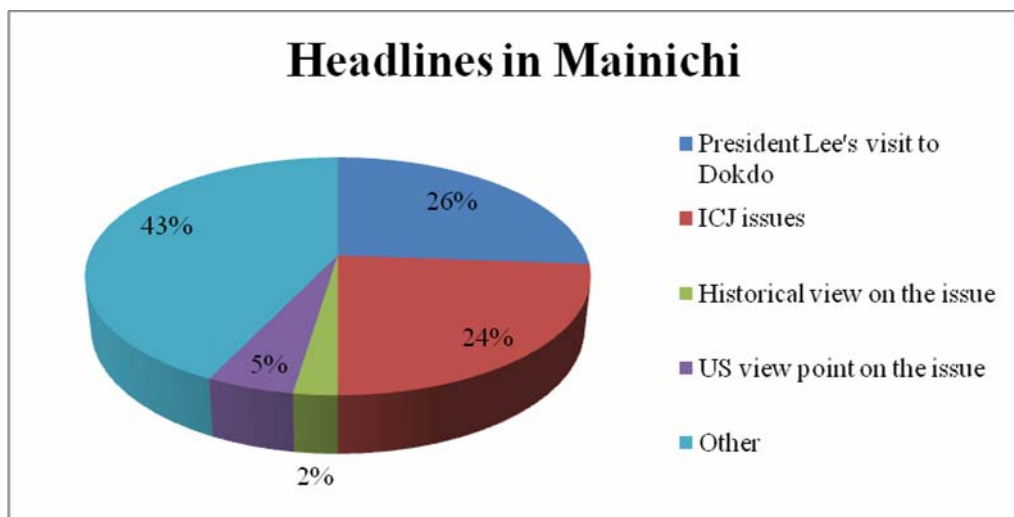


Figure 12 shows the ratio of the headlines' subjects in the Japanese English online newspaper

The existence of historical evidence that Dokdo belongs to South Korea is also another example of framing. Joongang Daily has two news articles about the

historical evidence of Dokdo issue. The articles are about the document that tells Japan paid taxes to Korea for fishing at Dokdo and the old Japanese textbooks that mention Dokdo belongs to Korea. However, the same or similar news articles or headlines were not found in Mainichi, Japanese English online newspaper. Moreover, Mainichi mostly doesn't include the historical background or documents as the source in the articles.

The journalists of both Joongang Daily and Mainichi use framing in order not to break the objectivity, the journalists' rule. At first, they select the sources and information. In this process they also avoid some of them. The example is the historical evidence about Dokdo issue and ICJ proposal. Japan avoids the information about historical approach on Dokdo issue and chooses ICJ proposal issue to write more. Oppositely, Korea avoids ICJ issue on Dokdo but writes the news articles about historical evidences.

Secondly, they choose the news angle. For example, President Lee Myung-bak's visit to Dokdo was described differently in Korean newspaper and Japanese newspaper. The journalists took different angles of the same issue and write different news articles.

Next, the journalists formulate the headlines that can lead the whole news story. They choose the words for the headlines as it sounds differently even though the meaning is the same. For example, Korean newspaper's headline "Seoul takes marines out of drill on Dokdo islets" and Japanese newspaper's headline "South Korea begins exercises near disputed islets" have the same meaning that Korean marines exercise near the island. However, it sounds differently. Joongang Daily put the name of the island in Korean language to make it sound as usual marines' exercise near the territorial island. On the other hand, Mainichi put the word 'disputed islets'

and it sounds like Korean marines exercise not on its territorial water. Even though the story itself is very neutral, the headlines were mostly declined to its own country.

The word playing can also be found in the text of the articles itself. For example, there is a sentence from the article of Mainichi: “Unlike Japan, South Korea has not accepted “compulsory jurisdiction” where a concerned party is obliged to take part in proceedings on a case filed with ICJ” (2012, October 4). Here by using the phrase “unlike Japan,” the journalist wants to deliver the message that Japan tries to solve the problem, but Korea is not. The phrase, “But Japan has decided to seek joint submission,” (2012, August 17) is also gives the impression that Japan is seeking the joint solution, but Korea is not.

The exactly same thing can be found in the articles of Joongang Daily: “Nuland [the State Department spokeswoman] refused to clarify whether the United States supports Japan’s move” (2012, August 25). If the readers attentively read the article, they will found that the U.S. clarified neither Korea’s nor Japan’s move. But if not, the sentence can be understood as the U.S. refused to support Japan, but agreed to support Korea.

Within the example of words ‘kill’ and ‘save,’ it is more clear the importance of choosing words:

1. The fifty percent of people who took the pill were killed.
2. The half of people who took the pill was saved.

Both phrases have the same meaning: the half was killed and another half was saved. However, the second phrase makes people to feel more reliable on pill, as there is the word ‘save,’ but not ‘kill.’

Finally, the journalists write the news article in a bound of culture. The audience can read and understand the text easily when it is connected with well-

known story.

The first three steps of framing worked well in both Joongang Daily and Mainichi. But, it can be told that the last step does not exist in their news articles for the foreign readers. If the readers are Koreans or Japanese, they can understand the situation and what the journalists intend to inform.

Dokdo Issue in The New York Times

The New York Times has written the name of the island in both languages, Dokdo and Takeshima. In this way, The New York Times tries to be objective in treating this issue as the U.S. is the friendly country for both South Korea and Japan. There were only few articles about Dokdo Island in The New York Times. Thirteen articles were found by searching word 'Dokdo' and 12 articles by searching word 'Takeshima.' In total there were only 13 articles about Dokdo issue. Moreover, before August, there was no article concerning about Dokdo issue between South Korea and Japan in 2012.

After eliminating the editorial and feature stories and the articles that do not contain the relevant stories about Dokdo issue, only five articles were left from The New York Times. All five articles have the words Dokdo and Takeshima at the same time. Mostly, The New York times refer to Dokdo Island just the island, islets, isles, and disputed islets instead of naming it Dokdo or Takeshima. If it states the name of the island, then only in the way of stating both name in Korean and Japanese at the same time.

The words Korea or Korean were used 101 times, while the words Japan or Japanese appear 86 times in the analyzed articles about Dokdo from The New York Times. It shows that the newspaper try to hold both South Korean and Japanese stands

on Dokdo Island equally. It uses the speeches and quotations from the interview with people in the articles. The ratio of the interviewees between Koreans and Japanese is also balanced well.

Figure 13. The ratio of the interviewees in the U.S. online newspaper

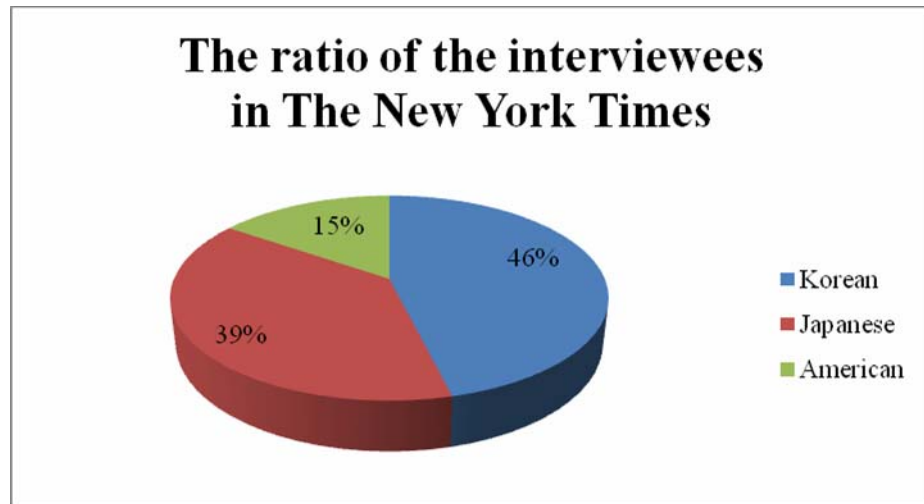


Figure 13 shows the ratio of the interviewees' occupations in the articles of the U.S. online newspaper

The New York Times avoid the words that can give the impression of criticizing South Korea and Japan. Instead, it mentioned only the facts and claims that were given by both countries.

Focus Group

During the discussions with the focus group it was easy to find that the opinion of two groups was differently formatted by reading the articles. Most of the students from the first group who read only the articles from Joongang Daily answered that the island is the South Korean territory. On the other hand, all second group members who read only the articles from Mainichi answered that the island is

in dispute, so it should be solved by taking this issue to the International Court of Justice. However, there was no answer that the island belongs to Japan in both first and second groups.

Figure 14. What country does the island belong?

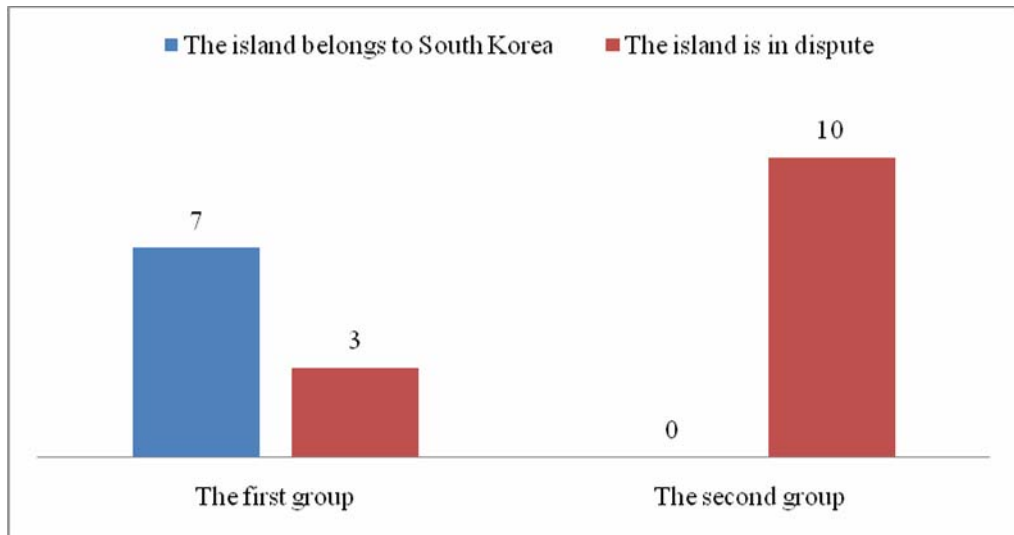


Figure 14 shows the different answers on the question “What country does the island belong?” depend of what newspaper the readers had read

The similar result was found when the students from the first group were discussing about the South Korean former president Lee Myungbak’s visit to Dokdo Island. They told that his visiting was acceptable as the island belongs to South Korea. However, the students from the second group had different opinion on the president’s visiting to Dokdo. Most of them told that the South Korean president should have wait until the island issue will be solved while others argued that his action is acceptable as the island belong neither to South Korea nor to Japan yet.

Figure 15. Opinion on the South Korean president's visit to Dokdo

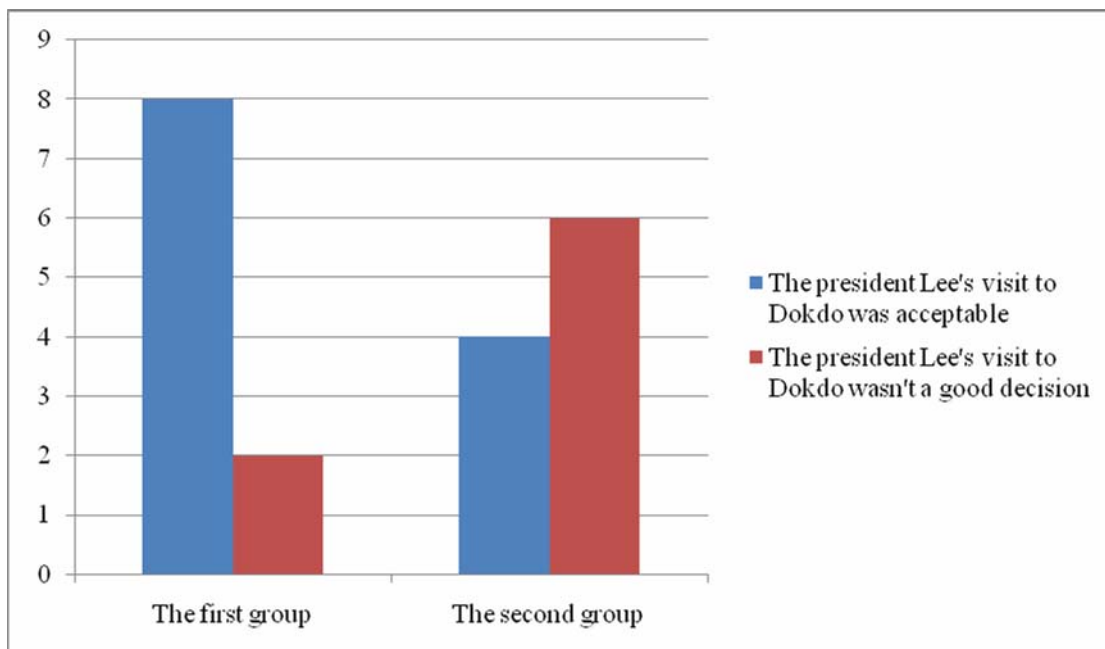


Figure 15 shows the different opinions on the South Korean president's visit to the island depend of what newspaper the readers had read

Within the provided headlines, most of the students from both groups had noticed that the articles were written by certain country. But it doesn't influence on the students' opinion, as they didn't changed their answer after recognizing that.

However, concerning the International Court of Justice issue upon the Dokdo issue, it was resulted differently comparing with other. The students from both groups had shared opinion that the conflict will be stopped when the International Court of Justice will approve that the island belongs to either South Korea or Japan. Most of the students from the first group told why South Korea doesn't take the island issue if it is obvious that the island belongs to Korea.

This kind of thing was happened because of the lack of the historical background of the Dokdo issue. Dokdo issue was the important topic between South Korea and Japan before this research and for a long time. South Korea has less national strength comparing with Japan. Dokdo was not included as the territory of Japan in Potsdam Declaration in 1945 and it, once, listed as the territory of South Korea in the Supreme Command for Allied Powers Instruction Note (SCAPIN) in 1946. However, within the effort of Japanese government it was eliminated, and Dokdo came to the center of the conflict between South Korea and Japan. If South Korea will take the Dokdo issue into the ICJ, this action can be the ground of Japanese claim that the island is in dispute.

Conclusion

The research was aiming to find out 1) differences in the way of reporting Dokdo issue in South Korean and Japanese English online newspapers; 2) reporting attitude of the U.S. newspaper about Dokdo issue; and 3) whether the framing works for the foreigners depend of what newspaper they had read.

As the result it was found that the South Korean and Japanese news agencies cover the different angles of the same Dokdo issue. There were four frames about the island issue: 1) Diplomatic/Political; 2) Historical; 3) Third party's stand; and 4) Other. Most of the articles were about the diplomatic and political issues that are related with Dokdo Island. Thus, most quotations and interviews in the articles were done by the governmental people, such as president, prime minister, ministers, government spokesperson, and etc.

For the journalists who are covering the issue of national interest in foreign language in order to inform the issue for the foreigners, the country image and interest are as much as important as objectiveness, the basic rule of journalism. They cannot take away both of them in their news coverage. That is why the journalists usually use the framing theory while they are covering the issue. It is well explained by Entman (1993) and proved by this research.

The journalists of both Korean and Japanese English online newspapers chose to frame the issue in order to not harm the national interest and keep the objectivity in the content of the articles. For example, Joongang Daily, the Korean newspaper, covers the story about the historical evidence that can prove that the island belongs to Korea, while Mainichi, the Japanese newspaper, does not. As the consequence, the audiences who read only the articles from Joongang Daily share the opinion that

Dokdo Island belongs to South Korea, but the audiences of Mainichi think that Dokdo is the disputed island.

On the other hand, Mainichi have more articles about on Dokdo issue to take in International Court of Justice while Joongang Daily try to avoid that issue and have more articles about historical evidence of Dokdo Island related to Korea. However, this kind of framing didn't work because the receiver doesn't have the same background knowledge about Dokdo issue.

As Entman (1993) stated, framing works when the communicator, the text, the receiver, and the culture have their own specific keywords and understanding about the issue. At Dokdo issue, the communicator is the journalist who is the citizen of the each country. They write the news articles which have specific keywords, word orders, sources of the information. The foreign receivers interpret the news articles differently depends on what articles they have read. If the receivers were Korean or Japanese citizens, this framing would work better, as they have already known about the issue well, so could interpret the contents of the articles as the communicator intended to.

Framing works well when it has set up for a long time for the audiences. Moreover, as the education level has been increasing, it became more difficult to change or influence on the audiences' opinion in short-term work. It is important to inform the issue to the public regularly in order to frame the issue for them. If the public don't have the background knowledge on the certain issue, framing doesn't have meaning.

On the other hand, the objectivity and balacing on the Dokdo issue worked well in The New York Times, the U.S. online newspaper. As the third country who has friendly relation with both Korea and Japan, U.S. newspaper, The New York Times try

to keep the objectiveness in its coverage by using both name of Island, Dokdo and Takeshima. It gives both countries' position in the news articles. U.S. cannot avoid Korean and Japanese contention on dokdo issue from its political standpoint, as it can harm the diplomatic relation with one or both countries.

Until the conflict ends with a definite solution, the issue over Dokdo Island will be reported in South Korean, Japanese, and even third countries' media. The frames and the ways of reporting of this kind of national conflicts can be changed as time goes. So the research on analyzing the frames in South Korean and Japanese media about Dokdo issue is worth to be done continuously. It is also possible and worth to research the changing of the frames in this issue.

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Appendix 1

The questionnaire for classification the articles

Title of the coverage

()

1. News agency:

1) Joongang Daily 2) Mainichi

2. Date of publication: ()

3. The main point of the article related to Dokdo issue:

1) Diplomatic/Political 2) Historical 3) Third party's stand

4) Other

4. General attitude of informing about Dokdo Island:

1) Neutral 2) Declined to Korea 3) Declined to Japan

4) Criticizing own country

5. The interviewee's occupation:

1) Korean governmental person 2) Japanese governmental person

3) Korean scholar/specialist 4) Japanese scholar/specialist

5) Korean citizen 6) Japanese citizen 7) Third person

Appendix 2

<The article about Dokdo Island in Joongang Daily 1>

Japan claims Dokdo again in defense white paper

Aug 01, 2012

The Japanese government renewed its sovereignty claim over Dokdo, Korea's easternmost islets, in its 2012 defense white paper it released yesterday.

The latest reiteration by Japan is expected to further strain diplomatic ties between the two countries which have soured recently due to issues related to wartime crimes.

"The territorial issues of the Northern Territories and Takeshima, which are Japan's own territories, remain unresolved," the paper stated.

Japan calls Dokdo Takeshima and the Russian-controlled Kuril Islands the Northern Territories. The paper was approved at a cabinet meeting in the morning presided over by Japan's Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda.

In response to the approval, Seoul's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade demanded Tokyo immediately correct its claim over Dokdo.

"We strongly protest Japan's re-inclusion of territorial claims to Dokdo, which is evidently our own territory on historical, geographical and legal grounds, in the defense white paper issued on July 31," Foreign Ministry spokesman Cho Tai-young said at a media briefing yesterday.

Japan has included such claims in its annual defense white papers since 2005.

"The Korean government urges the Japanese government to take immediate corrective measures," Cho said.

Earlier in the day, the foreign affairs ministry summoned Kurai Takashi, deputy mission's chief at the Japanese Embassy in Seoul, to protest the white paper.

"The Korean government once again would like to make clear the plain fact that Dokdo is an indigenous territory of Korea over which it exercises full territorial sovereignty, and that it will not tolerate any unjust claim of Japan to the territory," Cho said. Korea has placed a small police detachment on the islets to effectively control them.

Dokdo has long been a thorny issue in the relations between Korea and Japan. Korea rejects Japan's claim to Dokdo because the country gained its independence from Japanese colonial rule from 1910 to 1945 and therefore reclaimed sovereignty over its territories. Japan, however, officially sees the islets as part of its land.

Seoul's Ministry of National Defense also strongly protested yesterday's white paper

by releasing a statement saying, “Unless the Japanese government gives up its sovereign claims to Dokdo islets, there will be no forward-looking development in Korea-Japan military ties.”

It also called in Tsunehiro Yanagida, defense attache at the Japanese Embassy in Seoul, to the ministry and lodged a protest.

“We expressed deep regret,” said a defense ministry official. “And Mr. Yanagida responded by saying that he fully understood Korea’s position and said he will report it to his country.”

<The article about Dokdo Island in Joongang Daily 2>

Dokdo visit stunning, but right

Aug 11,2012

President Lee Myung-bak visited the easternmost islets of Dokdo on Friday. The watershed visit, the first by a president to the contentious islets at the heart of a territorial dispute with Japan, stunned and angered the Tokyo government, which warned of serious repercussions on Korea-Japan relations. There is nothing wrong about the top state executive visiting frontier territory as the head of command in national defense. Tokyo, however, is almost out of its mind over the incident. It reportedly is planning recall the Japanese ambassador in Seoul and protest to the South Korean ambassador in Tokyo. Japanese media highlighted Lee’s visit as a serious threat to bilateral relations.

President Lee, unlike his predecessor Roh Moo-hyun, has maintained amicable relations with Japan. The opposition has scorned Lee’s stance toward Tokyo while criticizing the government’s plan to sign a military intelligence sharing pact with Japan. Lee’s sudden visit to Dokdo was a dramatic twist that few at home or in Japan would have imagined.

Lee may have taken the drastic and risky step to send a strong message to Japan over its recently renewed claim over Dokdo. Despite repeated protests, Japan has claimed ownership of Dokdo, called it Takeshima in Japanese, in school textbooks and a defense white paper. It instead protested to Seoul for stating sovereignty over the rocky volcanic islets in a government white paper on foreign affairs. The government has been reinforcing defense activities to reassert sovereignty in Dokdo while staying relatively tolerant on the diplomatic front. But Seoul decided on a bold diplomatic move in order to send a strong message.

Japan’s shock and exaggerated response to Lee’s visit is partly understandable. But Tokyo should realize how its deluded claim over its neighbor’s territory can damage relations. Korea-Japan relations cannot move beyond the bottleneck unless Japan sincerely apologizes for past atrocities and makes amends.

There is no question that Dokdo is ours. We have been occupying it as our own jurisdiction. Nevertheless, Japan has persistently irked us with claims over the islets, raising questions over how serious it is about building future ties. Japan must end its

wishful thinking on our territory. Some Japanese media are raising hoopla over the incident that could stir up extreme rightists in Japan. The government must stay strong and defiant in defense of our territory.

<The article about Dokdo Island in Joongang Daily 3>

Korea levied taxes on Japanese fishing at Dokdo

Aug 18,2012

DAEGU - Documents showing that Japanese fishermen were charged taxes by the Ulleung Island county office for catching a sea lion near the Dokdo islets during the period prior to 1905 were discovered on Thursday. It supports the claim that Dokdo was under Korea's jurisdiction at the time.

Yoo Mi-rim, the director of the Korea-Asia Cultural Institute, said, "In 1902, the Korean Empire required the governor of Ulleung Island to levy taxes on any economic activities, including Japan's exports of sea lions, on Ulleung Island and Dokdo."

The tax evidence was recorded in an administration manual from 1902. These detailed enforcement regulations were recorded and enacted after Prime Minister Yoon Yong-sun approved the duty. The document is 10 pages long and has a stamp from the Prime Minister.

The tax regulations include charging 10 percent on any marine products and one percent on freight that enters the island.

The taxes on marine products usually applied to seaweed from Jeolla and taxes on freight applied to Japanese's exports.

The evidence shows that in 1902, the Japanese started fishing abalone in Dokdo, and they began hunting sea lions in 1904.

In 1901, during fishing season in Ulleung Island, up to 550 Japanese stayed on the island and 150 Japanese resided there year-round.

A document from the Japanese's Foreign Ministry details exports of sea lions, squid and seaweed in 1904 to 1905. In 1904, skin and oil from 20 sea lions were exported.

The amount of exports increased in 1905 with skin and oil from 411 sea lions.

Yoo explained, "The fact that Japanese paid taxes on catching sea lions means that they acknowledged Dokdo as Korean territory." A pod of sea lions used to inhabit Dokdo, but they have now become extinct.

<The article about Dokdo Island in Joongang Daily 4>

Tokyo repeats Dokdo court demand

Aug 22,2012

Tokyo formally asked Seoul to take the issue of Dokdo to an international court, despite Korea's rejection of the notion.

And Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda convened a cabinet meeting yesterday to discuss Dokdo, which Japan calls Takeshima, a group of islets in the waters between the two countries.

A councilor from the Japanese Embassy in Seoul delivered a written proposal to the manager of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, according to the Korean ministry, saying the disputed islets should be brought up at the International Court of Justice.

In Tokyo, Noda said, "We demand Korea mull over the matter considering the future of the Korea-Japan diplomatic relationship," Kyodo News reported yesterday. As for President Lee Myung-bak's visit to Dokdo last week, Noda said he was "really sorry" and that he "needs to respond in a flexible manner."

The cabinet discussed President Lee's official demand for an apology from Japanese Emperor Akihito for wartime atrocities against Korean women, Kyodo said.

The Yomiuri Shimbun reported yesterday that Noda asked Lee to refrain from further provocative acts, such as another visit to Dokdo, in the letter delivered yesterday. "We feel really sorry about the Japanese government's unjust claim of sovereignty over our territory," Foreign Ministry spokesman Cho Tai-young said at a regular briefing yesterday.

"We once again strongly urge them to immediately stop these groundless, unjustified claims. Dokdo is a definite territory of Korea based on history, geography and international law, and a territorial dispute can't exist. It's not worth thinking about taking the issue to the ICJ."

When it comes to speculation that Tokyo is pondering various economic measures to pressure Seoul to agree to the proposal, such as reducing Korea-Japan currency swaps or suspending purchases of Korean government bonds, Tadahiro Matsushita, Japan's senior vice minister of economy, trade and industry, told reporters yesterday that both countries should be careful with the matter.

"Both countries should judge [the situation] calmly," he said at a press meeting. He said that the emergency currency swap deal between the two countries is "a policy that exists because it's necessary."

On Friday, Japanese Finance Minister Jun Azumi told reporters that he was "considering" whether to extend the current swap treaty that expires at the end of October.

In an effort to emphasize Korea's ownership of the easternmost islets, the Ulleung County Office yesterday decided to name all of the unnamed rocks or peaks in Dokdo, located nearby Ulleung Island. The office will also rename those with military names, such as "Tank Rock."

Choe Su-il, head of the county office, said, "It will become an opportunity to proclaim that Dokdo is our territory through renaming all geographic places in Dokdo."

<The article about Dokdo Island in JoongAng Daily 5>

Old Japanese textbooks state 'Dokdo is Korea's'

Aug 30,2012

Japanese textbooks and maps that affirm Korea's sovereignty over the Dokdo islets have been shown to the public for the first time.

The Independence Hall of Korea, a state-run museum dedicated to the history of Japan's colonial rule and Korean independence activists, displayed geography textbooks and maps used in Japanese schools in the late 19th or early 20th century on Tuesday.

Museum officials said the books were verified or actually manufactured by the Japanese Education Ministry and there is no mention of Japan's claim of sovereignty over the Dokdo islets in the books.

The five textbooks are "A New Map For Geography Education in Elementary School" written by the Japanese Education Ministry in 1905, "Introduction to Japanese History, Volume No. 1," written by Den Hurutani in 1886, "Geography for Elementary School, Volumes No. 1 and 2," written by a private publishing company called Hokyusha in 1900, "New Edition of Geography Volume No. 1" written by Okamura Matsutaro in 1887 and "A Summary of Japanese Geography Volumes No. 1 and 4" by Shuji Otsuki in 1878.

The map is "A Specific Map of Japanese Regions," created in 1888 by Tsuneburo Aoki.

"We collected the materials from an old private library in Tokyo in June," Kim Yongdal, a senior researcher at the hall, told the Korea JoongAng Daily. "Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda says that Dokdo is originally Japanese territory and Korea is illegally occupying it, but we found that there's no single Japanese textbook published before 1905 that claims Japan's sovereignty over the islands. They just forcibly incorporated the islands during the Russo-Japan war in 1905."

The "New Edition of Geography" clearly shows Dokdo within Korean waters, along with the neighboring Ulleung Island, distinguished from other Japanese islands like the Oki Islands.

In "A New Map For Geography Education in Elementary School," there is no marking of Dokdo in the map of Japanese territory, while Taiwan is included, having been occupied in 1895.

However, "A Standard Map of Japan," published in 1925 by Tokyo Kaishokan, a private publishing company, states that Dokdo belongs to Shimane Prefecture while Ulleung Island belongs to North Gyeongsang of Korea.

A Japanese map collector also claimed that Dokdo is not Japanese territory on Tuesday. Kuboi Norio, a 70-year-old teacher living in Osaka, produced the "Map of Great Japan," which shows a string of Japanese islands including Okinawa, but which did not mark Dokdo and Ulleung Island within its waters.

Appendix 3

<The article about Dokdo Island in Mainichi 1>

Japan calls for cancellation of S. Korea president's visit to Takeshima

Japanese Foreign Minister Koichiro Gemba on Friday called for the cancellation of South Korean President Lee Myung Bak's planned visit to a pair of islands in the Sea of Japan controlled by Seoul but claimed by Tokyo, saying that the trip would hurt bilateral ties.

"If the visit is made, it would go against our country's position and so we strongly urge its cancellation," Gemba told reporters in Tokyo. "We must respond to it firmly."

He noted that the visit "would definitely have a large impact" on relations between the two countries, already tense due to the dispute over the islets, called Takeshima in Japan and Dokdo in South Korea.

The South Korean government notified the Japanese Embassy in Seoul on Thursday that Lee will arrive on the pair of islands between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Friday, and will hold a news conference, according to sources close to bilateral ties.

If the visit to the islets is realized, it would be the first by a South Korean president since the territorial row over the islands surfaced decades ago.

August 10, 2012

<The article about Dokdo Island in Mainichi 2>

Japan PM calls Lee's Takeshima visit "totally unacceptable"

TOKYO (Kyodo) -- Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda on Friday expressed his displeasure over South Korean President Lee Myung Bak's trip to disputed islands in the Sea of Japan, calling it "totally unacceptable."

Noda said in a news conference several hours after Lee made his unprecedented visit that it was "extremely regrettable" and reiterated Japan's claim on the islands as being an integral part of the country historically and under international law.

In a sign of protest, Japan had its Ambassador to South Korea Masatoshi Muto return home temporarily from Friday. Foreign Minister Koichiro Gemba said he will meet with Muto on Saturday morning.

Gemba lodged a protest with South Korean Ambassador to Japan Shin Kak Soo over Lee's visit earlier in the day to the islet group, controlled by South Korea but claimed by Japan, after summoning him to the ministry in Tokyo.

The islands are collectively called Takeshima in Japan and Dokdo in South Korea.

Before Lee's trip, Tokyo strongly called for its cancellation, saying that traveling to the islands in the Sea of Japan would seriously hurt bilateral ties.

The visit would "go against our country's position and so we cannot accept it," Chief Cabinet Secretary Osamu Fujimura said at a news conference before the trip.

Gemba had also cautioned that Tokyo would firmly respond if Lee went ahead with the trip.

Speaking to reporters in the morning, Gemba noted that Lee's visit to the islands "would definitely have a large impact" on relations between the two countries, already tense due to the territorial dispute.

Seiji Maehara, policy chief of the ruling Democratic Party of Japan, stressed the need to recall the Japanese ambassador to South Korea over Lee's visit, saying the envoy "must definitely be called back."

Lee flew to the islands by helicopter via Ulleung Island, a South Korean island northwest of them, marking the first trip to the islet group by a South Korean president.

The South Korean move is apparently driven by Seoul's willingness to take a hard-line stance on the territorial dispute ahead of the anniversary next Wednesday of the end of World War II, which for South Koreans marked liberation from decades of Japanese colonial rule.

The islet group consists of two small islands and numerous reefs. Japan claims it as part of Shimane Prefecture, while South Korea says it is part of its North Gyeongsang Province.

August 11, 2012

<The article about Dokdo Island in Mainichi 3>

S. Korea rejects Japan's proposal to take islets issue to world court

SEOUL (Kyodo) -- South Korea on Friday rejected a proposal by Japan to take the dispute over a group of South Korean-held islets in the Sea of Japan claimed by Japan to the International Court of Justice.

"The proposal by the Japanese government doesn't deserve even a passing notice," foreign ministry spokesman Cho Tai Young said in a statement.

"Dokdo is an integral part of South Korea's territory historically, geographically and from the perspective of international law, and thus there is no territorial dispute over the islets," Cho said. The sparsely inhabited rocky islands are known as Dokdo in South Korea and Takeshima in Japan.

South Korea will "sternly deal with any provocations by Japan over Dokdo," he said.

Meanwhile, a senior South Korean foreign ministry official on Friday stressed the importance of developing ties with Japan.

"We want Japan to understand South Korea remains unchanged in its position that it is desirable to further develop bilateral ties while squarely looking at past history," the official said.

Earlier Friday Japan's Foreign Minister Koichiro Gemba, in a meeting in Tokyo with South Korean Ambassador to Japan Shin Kak Soo, proposed the two countries jointly take their territorial dispute to the ICJ.

Japan made the proposal amid simmering tensions between Tokyo and Seoul following South Korean President Lee Myung Bak's unprecedented visit to the islands last week.

Seoul had indicated it would not agree to submit the matter to the ICJ nor respond if Japan submits it unilaterally, on grounds that the islands are South Korean territory and there is no territorial dispute with Japan.

August 17, 2012

<The article about Dokdo Island in Mainichi 4>

Takeshima row likely to linger as Japan set to go to int'l court

Japan will accelerate efforts to unilaterally take a territorial dispute over Takeshima, a pair of islets controlled by South Korea, to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) following South Korea's formal rejection.

It will take several months for Japan to refer the case to the ICJ and a trial is not going to materialize due to Seoul's objection, probably prolonging the territorial row for months to come.

Foreign Minister Koichiro Gemba on Aug. 30 issued a statement saying Japan was "extremely disappointed" by Seoul's rejection. He reiterated Tokyo's plan to unilaterally refer the case to the court at The Hague.

A senior Foreign Ministry official said a Japanese appeal to the ICJ will feature content that does not allow a rebuttal, based on past documents and materials.

Japan says its sovereignty over Takeshima dates back to the mid-17th century. It confirmed its sovereignty through a Cabinet decision in 1905 and the isles were not among the territories Japan was ordered to surrender under the 1951 San Francisco Peace Treaty. Takeshima is an inherent part of Japanese territory in the light of historical facts and based upon international law, Japan says.

The Foreign Ministry plans to appeal its case for Takeshima to international society to time with the decision to refer the case to the ICJ. On Aug. 21, the ministry invited foreign diplomats in Tokyo from about 20 countries, including European countries and member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, to explain Tokyo's plan to take the case to the ICJ.

But the Japanese government is worried that the territorial dispute between the two countries may prolong and sharpen. Gamba said in the statement that Japan will take appropriate steps to settle the dispute coolly and peacefully based upon international law.

August 31, 2012

<The article about Dokdo Island in Mainichi 5>

S. Korea to formally reject Japanese ICJ proposal

SEOUL (Kyodo) -- South Korea's foreign ministry will send a diplomatic document to Japan this week formally rejecting its proposal to refer their territorial dispute to the International Court of Justice for settlement, Yonhap News Agency reported Sunday.

A foreign ministry source was quoted as saying the document will reiterate Seoul's basic stance on the rocky outcroppings known as Dokdo in South Korea and Takeshima in Japan, stating that "no territorial disputes exist about Dokdo, which is South Korean territory historically, geographically and under international laws."

Last Tuesday, Japan sent South Korea a diplomatic document formally proposing that the two sides jointly refer the issue to the ICJ.

South Korean Foreign Minister Kim Sung Hwan, however, immediately rejected that proposal as "not worth consideration." Two similar proposals by Tokyo in 1954 and 1962 were rejected by Seoul.

Tensions between the two countries spiked on Aug. 10 when South President Lee Myung Bak made an unprecedented trip to the sparsely inhabited isles, which are administered by South Korea.

That prompted Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda to send Lee a letter in which he protested the trip and proposed the territorial dispute be taken to the ICJ.

But South Korea refused to accept the letter.

Last Friday, Noda held a press conference at which he accused South Korea of having "illegally" occupied the islands since the 1950s. He urged that the issue be resolved on the principles of "law and justice" on the international stage.

If South Korea formally rejects the ICJ proposal, Japan has indicated that it will make preparations to unilaterally submit a written complaint to the ICJ in a bid to garner international support by showing that it wants to put an end to the dispute in a fair manner.

But the ICJ will not be able to act on the matter as it requires agreement of both parties to a dispute.

August 27, 2012